

SPENCER COUNTY EQIP RANKING CRITERIA

WATER QUALITY

Answering "YES" to any three (3) of the water quality issue questions will earn a "HIGH" ranking. Two (2) "YES" answers will receive a "MEDIUM" ranking. One (1) or zero (0) "YES" answers will earn a "LOW" ranking. A "YES" answer will indicate the willingness of the applicant to address that concern as part of an EQIP contract.

1. Is the project located in one of the following watersheds: Crooked Creek, Little Pigeon Creek, or Anderson River? ___ YES ___NO
2. Does the tract(s) being ranked contain one-third HEL soils? ___YES ___NO
3. Does the tract(s) contain at least 33 percent soils with a Nitrate Leach Index of 10 or higher? ___YES ___NO
4. Are nutrient, waste, and/or pest management needed on the tract(s)? ___YES
 ___NO
5. Are current cropping and tillage practices causing erosion in excess of "T"?
 ___YES ___NO

EROSION

Answering “YES” to two (2) of the “Erosion” questions will earn a “HIGH” ranking. Answering “YES” to one (1) of the “Erosion” questions will receive a “MEDIUM” ranking. Answering “NO” to all three (3) “Erosion” questions will receive a “LOW” ranking. A “YES” answer will indicate the willingness of the applicant to address that concern as part of an EQIP contract.

1. Does the tract(s) proposed for contract contain at least one-third HEL soils that need and will receive improved erosion control treatment(s)? ____YES ____NO
2. Does the tract(s) proposed for contract include areas of gully erosion that need conservation practices installed to reduce erosion? (Gully erosion is larger than rill erosion and unlike rill erosion cannot be corrected by tillage .) ____YES
NO

3. Does at least one-half of the tract proposed for contract exhibit sheet or rill erosion? ☐ YES ☐ NO

LIVESTOCK

Answering “YES” to three (3) “Livestock” questions will earn a “HIGH” ranking. Answering “YES” to two (2) “Livestock” questions will earn a “MEDIUM” ranking. Answering “YES” to one (1) or zero (0) “Livestock” questions will earn a “LOW” ranking. A “YES” answer will indicate the willingness of the applicant to address that concern as part of an EQIP contract

1. Is the tract proposed for contract located in the Crooked Creek, Little Pigeon Creek, or Anderson River watershed? ☐ YES ☐ NO
2. Is a confined feeding operation not covered by a CNMP located on the tract proposed for contract? ☐ YES ☐ NO
3. Does livestock have direct access to any waterbody located on the tract proposed for contract? ☐ YES ☐ NO
4. Do you currently have less than 90 days on farm animal waste storage facilities? ☐ YES ☐ NO

FORESTRY

Answering “YES” to three (3) “Forestry” questions will earn a “HIGH” ranking. Answering “YES” to two (2) “Forestry” questions will earn a “MEDIUM” ranking. Answering “YES” to one (1) or zero “Forestry” questions will earn a “LOW” ranking. A “YES” answer will indicate the willingness of the applicant to address that concern as a part of an EQIP contract.

1. Does livestock currently have access to forested land located within the tract proposed for contract? ☐ YES ☐ NO
2. Does the tract proposed for contract contain an area of HEL soils with slopes exceeding 20 percent that will be reforested according to a silvaculturally sound forest regeneration plan? ☐ YES ☐ NO
3. Does the tract proposed for contract contain a riparian area that will be reforested according to a silvaculturally sound forest regeneration plan? ☐ YES ☐ NO

4. Will the wooded acres on the tract benefit from timber stand improvement?
___YES ___NO
5. Can a silvaculturally sound tree planting connect two or more forested areas either on the tract proposed for contract or on land adjacent to the proposed tract. Ownership of the adjacent tract can be other than the applicant. ___YES ___NO

NOTE: All concerns that are used to earn points to improve the ranking of the proposed contract must be addressed through a cost shared practice applied to the land under an EQIP contract. Failure to address any concern that earned points will negate the ranking and require a new ranking to be performed that excludes all concerns not addressed.